

## **SCOTT WALKER**

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR STATE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 7863 Madison, WI 53707

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Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St, SW Room TW-A325 Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write to you today to recommend Joan Wade for the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors. Joan is an extremely qualified candidate whose career as an educator, legislator, and administrator provides her with the skills and experience to enhance the management, administration, and oversight of the USAC.

I had the pleasure of serving with Joan in the State Assembly when she was the State Representative for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District. She is a results oriented team member who works to create a consensus to solve problems and come to decisions.

Joan would be an asset to the USAC because of her expertise in running large and complex organizations with a focus on education. Currently, she serves as the Executive Director of the Association of Educational Service Agencies, where she oversees 500 members in 45 states while working to design and implement a strategic plan for the organization. Previously, she worked as the Agency Administrator for the Cooperative Education Service Agency (CESA) 6, where she worked to meet the needs of 42 public school districts in the region while managing a \$24 million annual budget.

Another important qualification Joan brings to the table is her experience in serving on various statewide committees. She served on Wisconsin's first statewide broadband committee. She also chaired the Wisconsin Association of Distance Education Networks and the Wisconsin Educational Technology Board. As a State Representative she served on the education committee, developing new rules for teacher licensure and special education, as well as tackling school funding issues and curriculum and assessment issues.

Early in her career Joan worked as a teacher in a rural elementary school, giving her a personal perspective on the issues facing students and school administrators. This background helps her to make informed decisions regarding education policies.

Joan was an early proponent of digital learning, and developed and managed one of the first digital learning networks in the state of Wisconsin. Under her leadership the South Central Instructional Network Group Distance Learning Network grew to include seven technical college campuses, eleven high schools, the CESA office, and even a link into the University of Wisconsin system.

Joan is an exceptionally qualified candidate and she would do great work for the USAC in working as a representative for our nation's schools and our students.

Sincerely,

Scott Walker Governor